



HR0397

LRB098 12152 GRL 46086 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate the members of
4 Shelby Electric Cooperative on the 75th anniversary of their
5 cooperative; and

6 WHEREAS, Shelby Electric Cooperative was officially formed
7 on January 18, 1938 in Shelbyville, Illinois, through the hard
8 work and dedication of a handful of local residents wanting to
9 improve living and farming conditions for themselves and their
10 neighbors; and

11 WHEREAS, Because of the lack of density, it simply wasn't
12 possible for the for-profit utilities to make a profit serving
13 rural areas with only a few farms or homes per mile of electric
14 line; with the help of loans from the Rural Electrification
15 Administration (REA), the people living in these rural areas
16 banded together to form member-owned and member-governed
17 electric cooperatives; and

18 WHEREAS, This group of local residents went door to door
19 signing up their neighbors to become members of Shelby Electric
20 Cooperative and convincing them that a cooperative would bring
21 lights and power to the rural area; and

1 WHEREAS, Their hard work paid off and Shelby Electric
2 Cooperative's lines were first energized on January 1, 1939,
3 initially serving 481 member-owners in Christian, Macon, and
4 Shelby counties; and

5 WHEREAS, Shelby Electric Cooperative continues to provides
6 reliable electric service to member-owners in Christian,
7 Cumberland, Effingham, Fayette, Macon, Montgomery, Moultrie,
8 Sangamon, and Shelby counties; and

9 WHEREAS, For 75 years, the cooperative has served its
10 member-owners based on 7 guiding principles: voluntary and open
11 membership, member-elected and controlled boards of directors,
12 members' economic participation, autonomy and independence,
13 education and training, cooperation among cooperatives, and
14 concern for community; therefore, be it

15 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
16 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
17 we congratulate the members of the Shelby Electric Cooperative
18 on the 75th anniversary of their cooperative; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
20 presented to Shelby Electric Cooperative as a symbol of our
21 esteem and respect.